

# Althusser and the Renewal of Social Theory

By Robert Paul Resche

## I. Minimal and Basic and then Extended Mode of Production

From the forces and relations of production to in fact the structure of a social formation, which then is geography which then receives multiples modes of production with a dominant capitalist mode of production which then is structuralist. We then extend the mode of production to either political structure, or in fact social structure, or even legalism and finally the whole mode of production, is then extended with distribution, consumption and is functionalist.

## II. Functionalism

The function of social structure, is then its index of effectivities which then are functions which then is also distribution functions, and even functions of bureaucracy which then produces a syntactical development of the functional structure.

## III. Capital and State Capital

The mode of production the produces ideological formalisms and has a economic instance overdetermined by political ideology and cultural ideology - this is structural causality - which means the structure exists in its determinations. The ideology critique practiced by Louis Althusser is about the ISA argument only - it produces the view that there is an ISA called university system which has technical consciousness and skills and a temporality which then is the production process as well - but actually the whole ISA sets which is then ideology. He means there is a extended model of society again.

## IV. Functionalist Totality

Functionalism then is strong in capitalist society and modes of production - it is all functionalist models after functionalist models - now Althusser is called a functionalist - but I mean he is a structuralist type of functionalist - he means that one can perceive the architectural argument and the finance capital and the plans of the state in fact instead as functionalist models - a syntactical structure. Communism is moving away from the functionalist matrix towards a refined argument like Situationism instead - where form begins to become important. Thanking Althusser I would say Perry Anderson makes a political structure argument with empiricism which is important - but that is only the march of structures actually.